

March 20, 2007



New Seahawks Training Facility to be Named Virginia Mason Athletic Center

KIRKLAND, WASH. – The Seattle Seahawks have announced an expanded partnership with Virginia Mason Medical Center (VM), naming the club's new state-of-the-art football training facility the Virginia Mason Athletic Center (VMAC).

“Virginia Mason is recognized as one of the top hospitals in the country,” said Seahawks CEO Tod Leiweke. “The VMAC will allow our organization to consolidate into one facility, attract and retain free agents and bring training camp back home. The Seahawks, like Virginia Mason, strive to be at the top of our profession and this partnership helps accomplish that goal.”

The 200,000 square foot Lake Washington waterfront facility, second largest in the National Football League, will be located within the northern city limits of Renton and is scheduled to open in the summer of 2008. The property is bounded by Interstate 405 to the east, Lake Washington to the west, residential property to the north and 44th Street to the south. The facility will be the year-round site for all Seahawks team training activities.

“The commitment to community and the spirit of caring for others are key building blocks for this new training center. We are proud to be affiliated with this project,” said J. Michael Rona, president of Virginia Mason Medical Center.

Virginia Mason has been in partnership with the Seahawks for over eight years. In that time, the two organizations have collaborated on many efforts including health awareness campaigns for influenza and heart disease and game day opportunities for pediatric patients. The partnership spearheads the Boeing Classic, a PGA Champions Tour golf event, which raises money for The Heart Institute at Virginia Mason. The tournament has raised nearly 1.4 million dollars for heart care in the region since 2005.

Seattle Seahawks

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Virginia Mason Medical Center, founded in 1920, is a not-for-profit comprehensive regional health care system that combines a primary and specialty care group practice of nearly 500 physicians with a 336-bed acute care hospital in Seattle. In addition, Virginia Mason has a network of clinics located throughout the Puget Sound area, and manages Bailey-Boushay House, a nursing residence and adult day health program for people living with HIV and AIDS. Virginia Mason also has an internationally recognized research center, Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason. For more information, visit VirginiaMason.org

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